THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) During the period 1-1-87 to 30-6-87, the MRTP Commission has received 263 complaints, applications, information with regard to unfair practices of alluring promises through advertisements. The time and effort involved in compiling details of all such cases may not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be achieved. The Commission is empowered to take appropriate action in the matter under the provisions of the MRTP Act, 1969, relating to unfair trade practices. The Commission issues press releases as and when final orders are passed and interim injunctions issued in the enquiries instituted by it and these educate the public. Further, the inter-action of the Commission with the State Governments and consumer bodies also creates consumer awareness.

Production of tyres

1609. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of bus|car|truck tyres in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether the country is self-sufficient in respect of production of tyres;

(c) the retail prices of bus|car|truck tyres during the last three years; and

(d) has there been any fall in the prices of these tyres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The total production of bus, car and truck tyres in the country during the last 3 years were as follows:—

(No. in lacs)

	1984	1985	1986
1. Truck/Bus tyres	35.82	36.07	38 55
2. Passenger Car tyres	13.34	15.36	14.60

(b) The installed capacity in the country is sufficient to meet the demand for tyres in the country.

(c) and (d) The details regarding the approximate retail prices of truck|bus tyres and passenger car tyres in the month of June during the years 1984, 1985 and 1986 are given below:

Sl. No.	Category	1984	1985	1986
1.	(a) *Truck & Buo tyree* 100×20 Nylon	Rs. 3875-4250	Rs. 4720-5125	Rs. 5100–5525
	16 PR Nylon Lug		(including tube+sa les tax)	
	(b) 900×20, 16 PR Nylon Lug	Rs. 3 575-3785	Rs. 4050-4425	Rs. 4200-4575
2.	*Parrenger Car*	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	(5.90→15 6 PR BSW)	625→670	675→740 (tyres only+sales Tax)	660→780

There has been no fall in the prices of popular brands of bus/truck tyres as well as the passenger car tyres.

Action against Apple Leasing and Industries

1610. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MRTP Commission had initiated certain proceedings against the Apple Leasing and Industries for making incorrect claims in their advertising campaigns, and if so, what are the details of the action taken against the company; and

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to recent advertising by the same company in which they are again making more or less the same claims as were made in their earlier advertisements and if so, what action is proposed by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) On the basis of an application filed by the Director General of Investigation and Registration, the MRTP Commission has instituted an Enquiry against M/s. Apple Leasing and Industries Ltd., Bombay, under the provisions of the MRTP Act, 1969 with reference to advertisements issued by them.

(b) The Enquiry has not been completed and no interim injunction has been issued by the Commission restraining the company from issuing similar advertisements.

Prices of tyres and tubes

1611. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given a written notice to the Tyre Industry not to increase the prices of tyres and tubes;

(b) whether Government have received any communication from the Tyre Industry in this regard;

(c) whether due to this notice there has been a scarcity of tyres and tubes in the market; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Government had urged the tyre manufacturers through a communication addressed to the All India Type Manufacturers Association in June 1987 to refrain from increasing the prices of tyres. The tyre manufacturers however, increased the prices (Net Dealers Prices) of all varieties of tyres by 7 per cent in July, 1987. The Automobile Tyre Manufacturers Association have justified the price increase on the ground that there has been considerable increase in the costs of inputs.

(c) No, Sir. The prices of tyres, particularly, bus & truck tyres had been showing an upward trend during the last one year. The All India Association of Road Transport Undertakings & All India Motor Transport Congress have been making persistent complaints during the last two years to the Government regarding restrictive trade practices adopted by the tyre manufacturers as a result of which market forces are not allowed to have a free play.

(d) The Government are closely watching the situation in the market and may resort to import of bus & truck tyres if the need arises.

High Cost and poor quality of Maruti and its spare parts

1612. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the former Executive Directors of Maruti Udyog Limited had cautioned Government about the high cost and poor quality of the car and its spare parts.